

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION  
CITY OF AMITY, OR

Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the City of Amity Planning Commission was held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday October 10, 2022, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 109 Maddox, Amity, Oregon, and by Zoom phone and video conferencing platform.

Members Present:

Sean Fitzgerald (Commissioner) and Ryan Jones (Chairman)

Members Present Zoom:

Steve Ruyle (Commissioner)

Members Absent:

Lou Savage (Commissioner)

Staff Present:

Natasha Johnson (City Recorder), Michael Thomas (City Administrator), and Holly Byram (City Planner MWVCOG via Zoom)

Guests Present:

Dan K.

Call to Order:

Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes from May 9, 2022

Chair Jones asked if the Commission wanted to entertain a motion to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2022, Planning Commission meeting. Commissioner Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes; Commissioner Ruyle seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Comments from Citizens

Chair Jones asked for comments from citizens. Citizen Dan K. introduced himself to Planning Commission.

Old Business

There was none.

New Business:

**A. Update of City's Development Code for Psilocybin:**

City Administrator Thomas discussed the reason for updating the City's Development Code to account for the legalization of psilocybin. Measure 109 passed at the state level in 2020. The rules and procedures become effective on January 1, 2023. In November the city will vote on a two-year moratorium prohibiting psilocybin sales, manufacturing, and distribution. The moratorium will allow staff and the Planning Commission to draft and adopt the local rules.

He explained the City Council initiated a legislative amendment, with a recommendation to the Planning Commission to update the Development Code to address both marijuana and psilocybin.

He then described items that the Planning Commission should consider. City Planner Byram added there are multiple cities having same conversation, regarding the regulation of psilocybin.

Planner Byram explained that Amity does not currently have marijuana rules. Instead, the City follows the State's guidelines for the 1,000 ft buffer from schools.

Commissioner Jones asked if enlarge the buffer zone around schools and such to more than 1,000 feet. City Administrator Thomas stated while that may be possible, it could be illegal under the new state law. Planner Byram stated that Staff will undertake GIS mapping of the City to determine which properties may or may not be within the buffer and will work thru that process.

Commissioner Jones' opinion is that he is ok with banning it citywide. Commissioner Fitzgerald asked for confirmation that the allowed use was for only for therapeutic purposes and not recreational. Administrator Thomas confirmed that only therapeutic use was allowed and explained what the entailed, being a licensed facility and under supervision. . Administrator Thomas explained the City can't setup rules which would result in an outright prohibition of either marijuana or psilocybin.

Commissioner Fitzgerald expressed that he doesn't have a strong opinion regarding psilocybin use. Administrator Thomas concluded his comments by stating that there was nothing for the Commissioners to vote upon, this meeting was merely to advise and inform the Planning Commission and to obtain their guidance as to how to craft the new code. Chair Jones asked for a proposal and when staff might present it to them. Planner Byram explained the required steps and the full process. Administrator Thomas asked for any further concerns from Planning Commission. Commissioner Ruyle requested that the code wording be more restrictive. The Planning Commission all agreed to initiate the process and asked Staff to begin drafting new code language. Planner Byram went over timeline and the possibility of having to send out notification to property owners.

Finally, with a prompt from Planner Byram, Administrator Thomas informed the Planning Commission that Public Works Superintendent Mathis's last day was today, and the city will begin the process of hiring a replacement.

Next Meeting Date:

Chair Jones set the next meeting to November 14, 2022, at 6:30pm, and the Commission all agreed to the meeting if there is anything on the agenda.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Fitzgerald made motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Ruyle seconded and with no further discussion motion passed 3-0.

Chair Jones adjourned the Planning Commission meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chrisy Worthington City Clerk

Attested

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Ryan Jones, Chair